## Message Text

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2.1

**ACTION VO-03** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 INSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /034 W

P R 250938Z FEB 76 FM AMCONSUL FRANKFURT TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3038 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CVIS: SOPN (SOKOLOV, ALEXANDER)
SUBJECT: U.S. VISA FOR ALEXANDER SOKOLOV

1. THE PRESENCE OF JOHANNA STEINDL-SOKOLOV, WIFE OF SOVIET DISSIDENT AUTHOR ALEXANDER SOKOLOV, AT A FEBRUARY 22 MEETING IN FRANKFURT OF A GROUP FOUNDED IN 1972 AND CALLED SOCIETY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (GESELLSCHAFT FUER MENSCHENRECHTE) HAS INTER ALIA PRODUCED SOME CRITICAL PRESS COMMENT ON THE ALLEGED REFUSAL OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN VIENNA TO GRANT THE SOKOLOVS A TEMPORARY VISITORS' VISA TO THE UNITED STATES.

2. THE ARTICLE IN THE FRANKFURTER NEUE PRESSE OF FEBRUARY 23 HEADLINED VICTIM OF DETENTE AFTER NOTING SOME OF THE DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED BY THE SOKOLOVS BEFORE AND AFTER THEIR DEPARTURE FROM THE SOVIET UNION STATES THAT THE AMERICAN PUBLISHER OF HIS NEXT NOVEL "SCHOOL OF FOOLS" SHORTLY TO BE PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH HAD INVITED THE AUTHOR AND HIS WIFE TO VISIT THE U.S. IT GOES ON TO SAY THAT DESPITE NOTARIZED ASSURANCES FROM THE U.S. PUBLISHER THAT ALL COSTS OF THE VISIT WOULD BE COVERED BY THEM A VISITORS' VISA WAS REFUSED BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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U.S. CONSULAR OFFICIALS IN VIENNA ON THE GROUNDS

THAT THE SOKOLOVS WERE ATTEMPTING TO ILLEGALLY IMMIGRATE TO THE U.S. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES PLAINTIVELY "IT LOOKS AS IF EAST-WEST DETENTE HAS SOME STRANGE EFFECTS".

3. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT THE DETAILS OF THE SOKOLOV VISA CASE ARE BUT IN THE ABSENCE OF INFORMATION JUSTIFYING DENIAL OF AN NIV WOULD BE PLEASED TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO TRY TO LOCATE MRS. SOKOLOV IF SHE IS STILL IN FRANKFURT AND TELL HER THAT WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO GIVE HER AND HER HUSBAND A TEMPORARY VISA TO THE U.S. IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL TO HAVE INFORMATION TO ENABLE US TO CORRECT PRESS STORY.LEHMANN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ENTRY VISAS, WRITERS

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Subject: U.S. VISA FOR ALEXANDER SOKOLOV TAGS: CVIS, SOPN, GE, US, (SOKOLOV, ALEXANDER) To: STATE

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